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OFFICE—No. 104 King street, over
Stone's, (formerly French's) Book Store.

LOCAL.—The weather continues warm; yesterday was like a spring day; fogs prevail early in the morning.—Several prisoners escaped from the jail in this place, on Friday night last, by picking the lock of the door that leads into the yard, and then scaling the walls; there is a guard at the jail, but the guards—quiscustodiet, &c.—Mr. John Young, of Fairfax county, recovered on Saturday last, a horse which had been stolen from him recently, and which he found in the possession of a sutler of a Maine regiment.—Some thieves, one night last week, stripped the canvas s off the tops of several wagons stand in vacant lots in different parts of the town and made off with the booty.—There being no night watch, prowling vagabonds go about every night on the suburbs, pulling down and carrying off fences, from lots and gardens.—The fishermen have commenced hauling small sienes in Hunting Creek, and are catching a few white perch, and some mullets, chubs, and yellow perch, which are offered at high prices.—Edward Collison, Wm. Button, Jas. Owens and Samuel Bernhardt, have been arrested by the military authorities here, for buying "contraband" articles, such as railroad iron, soldier's clothing &c., and are confined in the guard house.—Some mischievous youths one night last week broke several panes of glass from the windows of Mr. John Cooke's store, corner of Prince and Pitt streets.—The small pox continues to prevail extensively in this place, and several deaths from it have recently occurred.—Large crowds have recently attended the places of public amusement—circus and concert—open in this place.—Rev. Dr. Elias Harrison is now laboring under indisposition which prevents him from officiating in the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church; his numerous friends—the whole community—wish him a speedy restoration to health.—A gondola with a quantity of iron on board in a car, struck against a vessel lying in the stream, last week, and the car and its contents were sunk in the river.—A number of wood carts, were in town to-day, loaded with fuel; the price, however, is still high.—The Wash. Chronicle complains of the condition of streets and alleys in Washington—and thinks that the filth allowed to remain in the gutters &c., will bring on disease; the same complaint can be justly made of the same state of thing in Alexandria.—Two horses were stolen from the Poors House lot, last Friday night.

Judge Crawford, of the Criminal Court of the District of Columbia, is lying dangerously ill in Washington, and it is not expected that he can recover.

A turnpike toll gate in Baltimore county, Md., about which there has been some difficulty, was destroyed last Saturday, by persons on the road.

THE HORRORS OF WAR.

Gen. Mitchell lately issued the following order:

HEADQUARTERS POST,
NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 9, 1863.

Special Order No. 9.—I. In consequence of the wanton destruction of a locomotive and construction train upon the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad this day, by one Richard McCann and Thomas Kilkind, leading a gang of outlaws, the property of these men will be destroyed. Col. Moore, 85th Illinois Volunteers, will proceed immediately with his regiment along the line of the railroad to the houses of the persons above named, and destroy their houses, barns, fences, and all property susceptible of destruction upon their respective grounds, by fire or any other means at his command.

II. It is hereby announced that the property of all parties engaged in interrupting the workings of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, or other railroads in this vicinity, or of the passage of the Cumberland river will be treated in like manner with the property mentioned in the above order, so far as it is in the power of the General Commanding at this post so to treat it.

III. All property of any kind belonging to any Rebel, or Rebel sympathizer, found within one mile of the locality of any similar outrage perpetrated upon the line of any railroad, or on the banks of the river, in this vicinity, will be destroyed in the manner described. By order of
BRIG. GEN. R. B. MITCHELL,
Commanding Post.

John Pratt, A. A. Gen.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 1863.—Gen. Burnside arrived here on Saturday morning, on a special boat, and proceeded at once to the War Department, where he met the Secretary of War and Gen. Halleck. He subsequently accompanied them both over to the White House.

A great deal of importance attaches itself to his visit, from the fact that the people and the army expected to have an advance on Richmond, and not on Washington. The army is by this time all back in the old camp grounds, and an advance indefinitely postponed.

There are rumors of charges to be preferred against some of his Generals, for conduct prejudicial to good discipline. Until the charges are made we prefer to give them no publicity.

Two causes of the delay which kept the army from crossing before the recent storm, should not be passed over. First, it is said General Burnside was delayed in moving, from the Confederates having become aware of his designs, and moved troops and constructed works in a single night, which led to a further change of the point of crossing. Then the pontoons, under General Woodbury, were not forthcoming until the plans were again exposed to the Confederates—but delay, delay—and then the storm came, and for two days and nights raged with fearful effect upon the men and the roads.

A woman killed her seducer, at the door of a magistrate's office, in Pittsburg, Pa., last week.

WAR NEWS.—Letters from Falmouth, dated on Saturday, say that the late movement of the Army of the Potomac has been definitely abandoned, and the troops were returning to their cantonments and old quarters. The storm and the consequent mud furnished an obstacle not to be overcome. A letter in the N. York Tribune says: "The pontoon train was most seriously affected by the storm. When the bridges ought all to have been completed, many of the boats were scattered upon a score of roads, in all directions, fast in the mud, or lost in the labyrinth of roads with which the country is intersected. A remarkably confused state of things pervaded the pontoon trains."

It is reported that Gen. Grant has moved the army of Tennessee from Memphis to Vicksburg, and has, ere this, renewed the siege of that place—the third to which it has been subjected. It is also reported that the rise in the Mississippi has opened the canal cut across the peninsula in front of Vicksburg.

A fleet of Federal transports were attacked at a point below Nashville, on Friday last. A gunboat accompanying the fleet engaged the Confederate batteries, and drove them off, the transports proceeding to Clarksville, where they arrived safely. A Federal foraging party, consisting of one hundred and twenty men and thirty-five wagons, were captured by the Confederates on Wednesday last, near Nashville.

Admiral Porter reports that the Federal forces have occupied the towns of St. Charles, Duvall's Bluff, and Des Arc, on the White river, Arkansas. Some artillery and small arms were captured.

An arrival from New Orleans brings no news concerning the movements of the Banks expedition up the Mississippi river. It was reported that one of the Federal gunboats had been sunk by the Confederate batteries at Port Hudson, and that Stonewall Jackson, with forty thousand men, had arrived at Vicksburg. (?)

The Confederate steamer Alabama, it is reported, was still off Havana, on the 17th inst.

FROM MEXICO.—The French communication between Vera Cruz and Orizaba has been completely cut off by the Mexican guerillas, and can only be re-established and kept up by the French posting strong guards all along the route. The Mexican guerillas are in strong force all along the road, and worry the French unceasingly. It is reported that the French have been again repulsed and driven back from before Puebla with great loss. The French General Berhiers and his vanguard, four thousand strong, were completely surprised by eight hundred Mexican cavalry, and after an engagement, about two thousand of them were killed and wounded. (?) Several French officers were taken by the lasso and dragged off. The prospects of the French look exceedingly bad.—They can't get supplies from the country, and they are surrounded by a determined enemy, who watch every opportunity to take advantage of them. No French soldier can stray from camp without being lassoed and dragged off by some Mexican guerillas who are on the watch for him.